

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US2004/033007

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 A61F5/00 A61F2/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>US 2003/040808 A1 (STACK RICHARD S ET AL)          27 February 2003 (2003-02-27)</p> <p>abstract          paragraph '0061!          paragraph '0064! – paragraph '0065!          paragraph '0071!          paragraphs '0074! – '0086!          figures 2,13A-19</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/--</p>	<p>46-48,          50-55,          57-60,          63,66,          67,          69-72,          74,          130-136,          146,147,          150-157</p>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

Date of mailing of the International search report

1 February 2005

09/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**International Application No  
PCT/US2004/033007**C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 868 141 A (ELLIAS ET AL) 9 February 1999 (1999-02-09) abstract figures -----	

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## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: **1–45, 75–129, 137–145**  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
**Rule 39.1(iv) PCT – Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery**
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

## Information on patent family members

International Application No PCT/US2004/033007
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003040808	A1	27-02-2003	US 2003040804 A1	27-02-2003
			EP 1492477 A1	05-01-2005
			EP 1492478 A1	05-01-2005
			WO 03086246 A1	23-10-2003
			WO 03086247 A1	23-10-2003
			US 2004117031 A1	17-06-2004
			US 2004158331 A1	12-08-2004
			US 2004138761 A1	15-07-2004
			US 2004172141 A1	02-09-2004
			EP 1420730 A2	26-05-2004
			WO 03017882 A2	06-03-2003
			US 2003199989 A1	23-10-2003
			US 2003199990 A1	23-10-2003
			US 2003199991 A1	23-10-2003
			US 2004172142 A1	02-09-2004
			US 2005004681 A1	06-01-2005
US 5868141	A	09-02-1999	NONE	